

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

In the Specification

Please substitute the following amended paragraph(s) and/or section(s) (deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining):

Page 6, line 29

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figures 1 to 8 show photographs corresponding to the hard chrome layers of examples 1 to 8.

Fig. 1 depicts the chrome layer of Example 1;

Fig. 2 depicts the chrome layer of Example 2;

Fig. 3 depicts the chrome layer of Example 3;

Fig. 4 depicts the chrome layer of Example 4;

Fig. 5 depicts the chrome layer of Example 5;

Fig. 6 depicts the chrome layer of Example 6;

Fig. 7 depicts the chrome layer of Example 7; and

Fig. 8 depicts the chrome layer of Example 8.

In the Abstract

Please substitute the following amended Abstract for the Abstract as currently pending (deleted matter is shown by strikethrough and added matter is shown by underlining):

A method of producing a structured hard chrome layer is described, wherein chromium is deposited from an electrolyte onto a workpiece, said electrolyte containing:

- (a) a Cr (VI) compound in an amount corresponding to 50 g/l to 600 g/l of chromic acid anhydride
- (b) 0.5 g/l to 10 g/l of sulphuric acid;
- (c) 1 g/l to 20 g/l of aliphatic sulphonic acid, comprising 1 to 6 carbon atoms, and
- (d) 10 g/l to 200 g/l of at least one compound forming a dense cathode film, said compound being selected from among ammonium molybdate, alkali molybdate and alkaline earth molybdate, ammonium vanadate, alkali vanadate and alkaline ~~alkali~~-ne earth vanadate, ammonium zirconate, alkali zirconate and alkaline earth zirconate.

Further, the application relates to a structured hard chrome layer obtained according to said method and to an electrolyte for carrying out said method.